

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Madison 6

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

August 29, 1947

AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Marine Biological Laboratory  
Woods Hole, Massachusetts

Dear Lederberg:

*These incl*  
Just last night I learned of a possibility of obtaining stereoscopic binoculars, Spencer models. The vertical tubes cost \$370; the inclined models cost \$400; with eye pieces x 9 and objectives X 1, X 2, X 3. Also there was a possibility of obtaining used Beck (English models) with one objective up to any magnification within reason. These sell, if available, for \$100. Whether the above statement means that anyone can purchase them with only one objective, I am not certain, as I am using the exact word of the agent. Unless the binocular dissecting microscope, of which you saw a sample, would be satisfactory, please reply at once as to your preference so that an attempt can be made to obtain one of those mentioned above.

Dr. Brink and I have been unable as yet to find quotations on an incubator of the size which you request; that is, 50" high, which is about 50" x 30" x 24". We have inquired into the possibility of obtaining an icebox which might be made over into an incubator. One of the largest sizes of these (Coolerators) has four compartments, each with the measurements about 24 x 22 x 23. This item is equipped with a small ventilating fan which can be set to run between one to five times per minute. I am enclosing an illustration of a model similar to the one on which we have the quotations, but not the same model. Would you kindly advise me if this machine would be more or less satisfactory than an incubator of the size you desired. Also, where can such an incubator be purchased? It would require some little time for the icebox to be made over into an incubator because of the rush of work in our Electrical Department. I would assume that there would be no difficulty of obtaining a heating unit and thermostat control, although this is only a guess.

We are getting quotations on a large size icebox comparable to the one that you saw in my laboratory. The agent advises that it have a stainless steel exterior rather than enamel. Unless the contrast between the enamel on the converted icebox (or possibly on the incubator) would offend your aesthetic taste, we shall go ahead with the probable purchase of the stainless steel box. Please advise on this also.

Dr. Brink is away on vacation so I am writing in his place. A very early reply would be very much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

*M. R. Irwin*  
M. R. Irwin

MRI/b